

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

The regular monthly meeting of the California Academy of Medicine was held on Monday evening, Oct. 23, 1911, at 8:30 p. m. in the library of the San Francisco County Medical Society.

The scientific program was as follows:

1. On the Treatment of Hereditary Hemophilia. Dr. Thomas Addis. Discussed by Drs. Mace, Eaves, Kerr, Hunkin, Bine, Tait, Eloesser, Addis.

2. Demonstration of Neuro-Pathological Material. Dr. G. Y. Rusk.

Drs. A. L. Fisher, H. C. McClenahan, Thomas Addis, James Eaves, E. W. Twitchell and J. G. Fitzgerald were duly elected to membership.

Refreshments were served at the close of the program.

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON GOITRE.

By H. S. DELAMERE, M. D., Berkeley.

In my practice, which is strictly private, not being connected in any way with a public institution of any kind, I would think goitre to be decidedly on the increase in California. For some years I have been trying to think of a reason, and now believe I have solved the problem.

Goitre appears to be extremely prevalent among fox terrier dogs. In fact, it is remarkable the number of these little animals which have the disease. These diseased dogs are almost invariably family pets. They are fondled by women, their saliva coming in contact with women's faces. They feed out of family dishes. There is every opportunity for especially the female members of the family becoming infected from the dog.

The dogs' fecal discharges are deposited promiscuously about the premises, becoming reduced to powder and finally to dust. Both male and female are then subjected to danger of infection by inhalation and contamination of food and drinking water.

The remedy: Promptly cremate all goiterous animals.

I have just seen mentioned in the New York Medical Journal that Dr. Robert McCarrison of the Indian Medical Service (Proceedings of the Royal Society for August 18, 1911) has experimented with goats and has transmitted the disease to them. It would certainly be interesting if some one with proper facilities at his disposal would investigate in a scientific way the connection, if any, between goitre in dogs and people in the state of California.

BISMUTH-IODIN PASTE IN DISCHARGING SINUSES.

By L. D. GREEN, M. D., San Francisco.

In a case of discharging sinus following an operation for carcinoma of the breast, the surgical measures usually employed in such cases failed to close the sinus. After trying the various methods for two months, Beck's Bismuth Paste was used for three months also without success. I then incorporated in the paste Tincture of Iodin with the result that with three injections the sinus closed in ten days. I have since then used it in a number of other cases of discharging sinus with equally good results.

I have been unable to find in the literature this method of using Beck's Paste and Iodin and therefore report it to the profession for further investigation.

The formula used is as follows:

Bismuth Subnitrate	30.
Vaseline	60.
White Wax	5.
Paraffin	5.
Tincture of Iodin.....	2.

The Iodin should be added after the other ingredients have been thoroughly mixed and the paste well stirred whenever used.

As there is a possibility of absorbing too much Iodin where the amount of paste used is large, the proportion of Iodin may be reduced accordingly in such cases.

ARMY MEDICAL CORPS EXAMINATIONS.

The Surgeon-General of the Army announces that preliminary examinations for the appointment of first lieutenants in the Army Medical Corps will be held on January 15, 1912, at points to be hereafter designated.

Full information concerning these examinations can be procured upon application to the "Surgeon-General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C." The essential requirements to securing an invitation are that the applicant shall be a citizen of the United States, shall be between 22 and 30 years of age, a graduate of a medical school legally authorized to confer the degree of doctor of medicine, shall be of good moral character and habits, and shall have had at least one year's hospital training as an interne, after graduation. The examinations will be held concurrently throughout the country at points where boards can be convened. Due consideration will be given to localities from which applications are received, in order to lessen the traveling expenses of applicants as much as possible.

The examination in subjects of general education (mathematics, geography, history, general literature, and Latin) may be omitted in the case of applicants holding diplomas from reputable literary or scientific colleges, normal schools or high schools, or graduates of medical schools which require an entrance examination satisfactory to the faculty of the Army Medical School.

In order to perfect all necessary arrangements for the examination, applications must be complete and in possession of the Adjutant-General at least three weeks before the date of examination. Early attention is therefore enjoined upon all intending applicants. There are at present sixty-four vacancies in the Medical Corps of the Army.

BOOK REVIEWS

A Text-Book of Medical Diagnosis. By Jas. M. Anders, M. D., Ph. D., LL. D. and L. N. Boston, A. M., M. D. Published by W. B. Saunders Co., Philadelphia and London. 1911.

The writer after a careful study of the treatise on Medical Diagnosis, by J. M. Anders, M. D. and L. N. Boston, M. D., must acknowledge therein a specific value to the medical profession in the subject named. The logical sequence of the authors' development of their subject and the fund of general information imparted stand out pre-eminently as the cogent reasons for the acceptance of this work. The critic is free to admit that he is impressed particularly by the scientific classifications that are everywhere extant throughout this Medical Diagnosis text. A further and equally commendable feature is the exemplification of the major symptoms. This is accomplished with great force and perspicacity and attests fully to the authors' grasp of this important phase of the subject treated.

In submitting a criticism of the work in question it is the writer's intention to touch solely upon the one essential in correct diagnosis that has been lost sight of, or strictly speaking, has been too lightly touched upon. A close student of Diagnostics must be appalled at the authors' apparent inattention to minor symptoms. To illustrate this—in Aortic Regurgitation the authors bring out the more prominent symptoms, but fail woefully to mention that a diagnosis of Aortic Regurgitation must be made at times when one or more of the typical signs are not present. To elaborate further—has not experience proven that one is called upon to diagnose this condition without a Diastolic Murmur? and, on the other hand, the patient showing symptoms of Angina Pectoris would always make one suspect an Aortic Re-